

YMCA Portsmouth Grammar School After School Club



Portsmouth Grammar School, High Street, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO1 2LN

Inspection date 22 September 2015
Previous inspection date 21 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The excellent leadership and management team ensures there is a great level of competence among the highly qualified staff team. Professional supervision by the inspirational leaders and managers means that staff meet children's needs exceptionally well.
- Safeguarding children is at the heart of everything the staff do. All staff complete rigorous training and are very knowledgeable about how to protect children and keep them safe. If there are concerns about children's welfare, management closely follows robust procedures to ensure they protect children from harm.
- The skilled staff deliver an exciting range of well-planned play experiences. Children have fun and enjoyment alongside staff that support them extremely well.
- First-class links with the school mean that there is a streamlined approach between the children's school day and leisure time. Staff are extremely creative and complement what children do at school with fun activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- consider the organisation of the books so children can enjoy choosing and reading them in a comfortable place.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children's play activities indoors and out, and looked at the available resources.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nominated person and manager about their leadership and management, including how they evaluate practice.
- The inspector had a discussion with a sample of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled and read relevant documentation.

Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The leadership and management team ensures staff practice consistently reflects the highest aspirations for children's safety, well-being and play. The team ensures that staff have an excellent understanding of all legal requirements and implement them exceptionally well. Safeguarding is effective. The very competent team works extremely closely together led by the passionate and inspiring manager. Leaders and managers support, develop and celebrate staff performance. Staff consistently show expertise in the provision of play opportunities for young children because managers place high priority on staff training and development. The pursuit of excellence and an uncompromising drive towards improvement since the last inspection enable the setting to go from strength to strength. For example, leaders carry out quality audits and their consistent reflection on practice informs changes, such as providing more outings into the local community. The leadership and management team builds strong links with parents. There is excellent information sharing through newsletters and the club's informative website.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff each have an important role to play in delivering high-quality provision and monitoring children's care and welfare. Staff effectively tune in to each child's needs and offer high quality, tailored interaction and support. Leaders and managers have devised an inspiring set of challenging play activities for children, which build on the skills they have already learnt in early life. Children had fun outdoors with their new friends and siblings on a nature hunt gathering materials for their nature art. They used their imaginations well and were creative, inspired by photographs of nature. Staff take time to observe, note and listen to children's interests which are included in future play plans. Children enjoy choosing from a wide range of resources, including an interactive wipe board. However, staff do not always arrange books to encourage children to sit comfortably and use them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely well behaved and show high levels of self-control and confidence in social situations. For example, during group time, new children sit and listen to the managers about sport media news and contribute to the conversation. The links with the school and excellent information gathering mean that each child's key person can quickly get to know them. Children also receive information about their key person to help them get to know who will be taking care of them. Children take managed risks, indoors and outdoors, learning to play safely. They confidently move and arrange the climbing apparatus and enjoy the challenge of climbing across several pieces. Staff pay excellent attention to children's health and safety because it is central to everything they do.

Setting details

Unique reference number	149057
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	985026
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	YMCA Fairthorne Group
Date of previous inspection	21 June 2012
Telephone number	01489785228

The YMCA Portsmouth Grammar School After School Club registered in 2001. It is managed and operated by the YMCA organisation, which has charitable status. The club is situated in Portsmouth Grammar School, in Old Portsmouth, Hampshire. Sessions run from 3.15pm to 6pm. The organisation employs seven members of staff to work with the children. Six staff hold appropriate early years and playwork qualifications.

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